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HOUSE BILL 537

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

J. Paul Taylor

AN ACT

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A STATEWIDE INFORMATION AND
REFERRAL TASK FORCE AND A PILOT PROGRAM OF THE "211"
INFORMATION AND REFERRAL PROGRAM IN DONA ANA COUNTY; DECLARING
AN EMERGENCY.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. APPROPRIATION. --

**A. One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) is
appropriated from the general fund to the department of health
for expenditure by the developmental disabilities planning
council in fiscal years 2003 and 2004 to establish an
information and referral task force and to develop a pilot
"211" information and referral program in Dona Ana county as
follows:**

(1) sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to

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1 establish an information and referral task force to develop a
2 statewide, comprehensive "211" information and referral plan,
3 including a tariff structure based on existing agreements, a
4 common taxonomy of terms, coordination between public and
5 private systems and standardized statewide training and
6 exploration of a centralized information repository. The task
7 force shall include representation from the department of
8 health; the human services department; the children, youth and
9 families department; the labor department; the state agency on
10 aging; the long-term care link program; the governor's
11 committee on concerns of the handicapped; the commission for
12 the blind; the commission for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons;
13 a statewide organization that raises money for health and human
14 service purposes; and other interested parties; and

15 (2) ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) to
16 develop and implement a pilot "211" information and referral
17 project in Dona Ana county.

18 B. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
19 at the end of fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general
20 fund.

21 Section 2. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
22 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.